

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SS-15 NSC-05 /062 W
----- 021592

R 111840Z JUL 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2692
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY OSLO
CINCLANT
CINCUSAFE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 3727

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS REQUEST FOR DECLASSIFICATION OF THE FINAL
REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP OF THE
STEERING GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION OF DEFENSE TASKS
IN THE CENTRAL REGION

REF: A. DPC/D(73)31
B. USNATO 3535
C. DRC/N(75)17

SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO NETHERLANDS REQUEST, DEFENSE REVIEW
COMMITTEE (DRC) VICE-CHAIRMAN BRABAND PROPOSES THAT THE DRC
APPROVE AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF ENCLOSURE 1, ANNEX II TO
DPC/D(73)31, FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP ON SPECIALIZA-
TION OF DEFENSE TASKS IN THE CENTRAL REGION (REF A) AND
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RECOMMENDS THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL CIRCULATE DOCUMENT FOR
APPROVAL BY THE DPC USING THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. WE RECOM-
MEND THAT WASHINGTON AGREE WITH PROPOSALS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT JULY 1 DRC MEETING AN INFORMAL AD HOC GROUP WAS FORMED TO RECONCILE NATIONAL DIFFERENCES REGARDING THE NETHERLANDS REQUEST TO DECLASSIFY THE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP OF THE STEERING GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION OF DEFENSE TASKS IN THE CENTRAL REGION (REF B). ON JULY 4 THE INFORMAL AD HOC GROUP MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM INTERESTED NATIONS AND SHAPE MET TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE NETHERLANDS REQUEST. DURING THE MEETING BELGIAN AND FRG REPRESENTATIVES MAINTAINED THEIR ADAMANT OPPOSITION TO DECLASSIFYING THE COMPLETE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP, BUT COULD GO ALONG WITH DECLASSIFYING THE FIRST EIGHT PAGES OF THE REPORT (ENCLOSURE 1, ANNEX II). BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE (TAYMANS) EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE IMPACT OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF AN UNCLASSIFIED AIR SPECIALIZATION PAPER ON THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF ITS DECISION TO PURCHASE THE F-16. IN THE SAME VEIN, THE FRG REPRESENTATIVE (WELZ) SAID THAT THE FRG IS SENSITIVE ABOUT THE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF AIR SPECIALIZATION ON THE MRCA PROGRAM. IN ADDITION, THE FRG BELIEVES THAT AN UNCLASIFIED VERSION OF THE ENTIRE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP WOULD GIVE THE WARSAW PACT TOO MUCH INFORMATION ON THE NATO AIR FORCES' CAPABILITIES AND WEAKNESSES. TAKING ACCOUNT OF THESE VIEWS, THE AD HOC GROUP AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO THE DRC THAT THE FIRST EIGHT PAGES OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP BE DECLASSIFIED, AFTER MINOR MODIFICATIONS WERE MADE TO SAFEGUARD SECURITY.

2. BY DRN/N(75)17 DATED JULY 4, 1975 (POUCHED) VICE-CHAIRMAN BRABAND PROPOSES THAT THE DRC APPROVE THE TEXT OF AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF ANNEX II TO DPC/D(73)31, ENCLOSURE 1 (REF C) AND THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL CIRCULATE THE DOCUMENT FOR APPROVAL BY THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE UNDER THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. IF THERE ARE ANY OBJECTIONS TO THESE PROPOSALS THEY SHOULD BE MADE PRIOR TO JULY 28. COMMENT: WE RECOMMEND THAT WASHINGTON AGREE WITH VICE-CHAIRMAN'S PROPOSALS UNDER THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. END COMMENT. PEREZ

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUL 1975
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO03727
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197507102/abbrzkzs.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. DPC/D(73)31 B. USNATO 3535 C. DRC/N(75)17
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchantr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 OCT 2003 by buchantr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NETHERLANDS REQUEST FOR DECLASSIFICATION OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE AIR GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION OF DEFENSE TASKS IN THE CENTRAL REGION
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
THE HAGUE
OSLO

SUB-GROUP OF THE STEERING

CINCLANT
CINCUSAFE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006